

THE CHIEF AND MANY FIREMEN DIE IN FLAMES

LOSE LIVES IN HOLOCAUST IN
THE STOCK YARDS AT
CHICAGO.

TRAPPED BY FALLING WALLS

Ammonia in Morris
Deaths.

Men Fight Against Desperate Odds to
Subdue Conflagration—Fire Fight-
ers Face Death to Rescue Bodies
of Their Comrades—Worst
Fire in Years.

Chicago.—Thirty-four firemen, in-
cluding Fire Chief James Horan, were
killed, while engaged in an onslaught
against a tornado of flame that swept
into rubbish the new beef house of
the packing plant of Morris & Co. at
the Union stock yards.

Scores of firemen were injured.
The property loss may reach more
than \$3,000,000.

Fire Chief Horan's body was re-
covered after repeated efforts to move
the smoldering debris under which he
was buried and removed to the home
of his brother, Daniel J. Horan, Sixty-
first street and Prairie avenue.

Firemen Were Powerless.
The flames spread so rapidly that
the firemen were powerless to save
the plant. The entire stock yards dis-
trict was threatened.

Huge tanks of tallow stood direct-
ly in the path of the flames and threat-
ened to explode.

The fire was the most disastrous
that the department has had to con-
tend with since the Iroquois fire, and
the holocaust at the Seventy-first
street crib.

Buried in Debris.
All the victims were in the base-
ment of the new beef plant when an
explosion occurred that wrecked the
building and buried them beneath tons
of debris. The explosion came with-
out warning. The men believed they
were in the flames under a roof and were
trying to back out of the building.

When the explosion of what was be-
lieved to have been ammonia took
place, a minute later companions
were making a frantic battle to reach
the buried sufferers.

Wild excitement followed. Extra
calls for help were sent in. A major-
ity of the fire companies in the city
were rushed to the scene.

The flames, stirred by the strong
wind, spread rapidly, and soon were
beyond control.

Face Death From Explosions.
Explosion after explosion followed
and drove back the firemen. The heat
became so intense that the flames had
to be fought from a distance of half a
block.

All the time great danger prevail-
ed because of the tallow tanks being
close to the burning structure.

It was hours after the discovery of
the fire before the firemen were able
to get near the structure. Then the
body of Morris was found.

News of the fate of the firemen
spread rapidly throughout the city.
Soon hundreds of grief-stricken moth-
ers, sons and daughters appeared on
the scene. Their grief was pitiable.

Police had great difficulty in
keeping them from rushing into the
flames.

Edward Morris, president of the
company was almost overcome when
he realized that so many lives had
been lost.

Watchman Discovers Fire.
A watchman who was making his
rounds through the structure discov-
ered the fire. He saw flames in what
is known as the hide storeroom in the
basement. He at once telephoned an
alarm and fled from the building. The
flames spread rapidly and with the
arrival of the first companies of fire-
men a general alarm was sounded
which brought over 15 companies of
firemen to the scene.

The fire broke out at 4 a. m. and a
spectacular battle with the flames en-
sued until at 5 a. m. a terrific explo-
sion of ammonia in the beef cold-
storage section of the building sent
a heavy canopy crashing down on a

squad of firemen who were directing
their operations from a loading plat-
form.

Send Many Calls for Help.
The fatalities all occurred in one
place on the loading platform. When
the blaze first was discovered and an
alarm turned in the first of the fire
department forces to arrive on the
scene sent in a 4-11 call for help.

Following this came special call after
special call, until 50 streams of water
were trained on the blaze.

A stubborn fight occurred between
the flames and the firemen. The fire
spread to many parts of the building
despite the efforts of the men who
sought to check it.

Sharp Blast, Then Death.
The fight had continued for an hour
when the crash came. Away up in
the roof of the structure, near a point
directly over the loading platform on
which stood Fire Chief Horan, Bur-
roughs, his second assistant, Lieuten-
ant Fitzgerald and nearly a score of
others, there was a sudden, sharp,
loud report like the instantaneous
firing of a high-pressure boiler.

Portions of the masonry of the
building fell away like a child's house
toy building blocks. A large part
of this fell on the canopy over the
loading platform, tearing the latter
away and bearing it to the platform
itself, which was crushed like an egg-
shell, with its human freight of fire-
fighting men.

Falling Brick Injure Many.
There were scores of firemen stand-
ing on the outskirts of where the
bricks fell. Many of these were in-
jured, some of them painfully. They
were taken to St. Bernard's hospital
and to their homes in ambulances
and police patrols, which were rushed
to the scene by the score when the
explosion came and it was known
there would be a list of dead and in-
jured.

Fumes of ammonia filled the build-
ing with rapidly. It was seen at
once that ammonia pipes forming a
part of the refrigerating machinery
that keeps the south end of the build-
ing chilled for the storage of beef
carcasses had exploded.

At once fear became widespread
that many firemen and their officers
were in the building at the time and
that the ammonia fumes would
strike them to the floor, leaving them
easy prey for flames and smoke or
killing them outright.

Firemen Work in Danger.
The rescuers worked under the
greatest danger to their own lives and
ignoring burns and hazard of falling
walls. Despite the fact that they were
aware of the fatality and knew that
the bodies of the victims were buried
under the brick pile, firemen worked
about the pile, directing streams of
water into the burning building. Many
of them went about with tears stream-
ing down their cheeks, overcome with
grief over the fate of the chief and his
subordinates.

Begin Rescue Immediately.
Almost as soon as the wall fell
those of the fighters who had escaped
the effects of their companions' rush-
ed at the ruins to bring to safety those
who might still be alive. Amid the
blazing timbers, the red-hot bricks and
the sizzling steel, the firemen worked
unmindful of the terrible burns they
were suffering.

The work of rescue was extremely
difficult. The terrific heat of the fire,
combined with that of the fallen ma-
terial, made it almost impossible for
the rescuers to work without being
overcome. Even around the edges,
the injured could hardly be found,
because the heat and grime with which
they were covered made them almost
indistinguishable from the ruins.

Walls Continue to Fall.
The peril of the brave fire fighters
did not cease after the explosion and
the falling of the wall on the score of
men on the loading platform.

Other and smaller sections of the
wall continued to fall and warning
calls from commanding officers to
men who were imperiled from time to
time by these were heard continually.
Finally an order was issued for the
men to venture near enough to the
building to be caught under any col-
lapsing masonry.

News of the fire and explosion
spread rapidly through the stock yards
district and friends and relatives of
the firemen gathered around the build-
ing, imploring the fire fighters for
news of their friends. Policemen from
a number of neighboring stations were
taxed to keep them from running into
the burning building.

Men's Beethouses of Plant.
The building that was destroyed, for
its loss was practically a total one,
was the principal beethouse of the
Morris plant. It adjoined on the
south the building in which are the
main offices of the company, and was
the largest of the Morris group of
structures. It was six stories high.

The structure consisted of a group
of four buildings, although they ap-
peared to be one, being built close to-
gether and the walls joined so as to
make them four units joined into one.
They were Nos. 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the
Morris & Co. group.

Founder of Open-Air School.
Miss Gardner of Indianapolis is said
to be directly responsible for the
open-air school for delicate children
which has become an institution in
that city. She appeared before the
board of education and by her argu-
ments prevailed on it to give such a
school a trial. The children pay
three cents a day for hot milk, soup
or cocoa, which is supplied them by
the school. Any deficit is made up
by the treasury department of the board.

A Plain Man.
"Do come along with us, major, and
have some dinner."
"Delighted, I'm sure. But you must
let me go home first and make myself
beautiful."
"Oh, don't bother—come just as
you are!"—Merry Thought.

A Costly Painting.
Bill—How long was your friend, the
artist, working on that canvas?
Will—Eight years. Took him about
six months to paint it, and seven and
a half years trying to sell it!

Unusual Character.
Gus was a very remarkable
man. He never makes any facetious re-
marks when he starts to cry.

Real News in Past.
The grapes of the great vine of
Hampton court, London, this year to-
taled 2,138 bunches, worth \$2,000. An
old newspaper man living near the
old vines says: "I have for 50 years
noted the regular crop of news para-
graphs about the probable yield of
grapes on the old vine, and I now
find out the newspapers a century ago
were printing the same thing." It
looks as if the old-timers had to tip
us young fellows off on real news.—
New York Press.

Ripen Slowly.
City Girl—Oh, the darling little
children, just out of their shells!
At what age are they ready for mar-
ket?
Farmer—Anywhere up to eight
years, lady.

Machine Sells Red Cross Seals.
New York.—The best salesman of
Red Cross Christmas seals in the
United States is a nickel-in-the-slot
machine in the Madison square post
office. The machine has disposed of
more than 1,000,000 seals.

Cow Sets a New Butter Record.
Syracuse, N. Y.—Pontiac Clothide
de Kol II, a Holstein-Friesian cow
owned by Stevens Bros. of Liverpool,
N. Y., has broken the world's seven-
pound butter record, by producing 37.28
pounds.

Ship Ashore in Gale.
Morehead City, N. C.—A large four-
masted schooner was stranded on the
west side of Cape Lookout shoals
Wednesday, and the heavy running
tide and strong wind drove the vessel
high on the shoals.

Woman Makes Long Flight.
Etampes, France.—The longest sus-
tained flight ever made by a woman
was negotiated here Wednesday by
Mlle. Helen Dutrieu, who covered 103
miles in thirty-three hours.

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Washington.—In announcing in the
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DISSOLVING IT



LORIMER REPORT IN

MAJORITY HOLDS THAT NOT THE
SLIGHTEST PROOF OF BRIBERY
BY SENATOR IS SHOWN.

FIGHT ON FLOOR IS CERTAIN

Beveridge And Frazier Do Not Sign
Committee Finding Which Is Pre-
sented to Senate and May File
Minority Reports Later.

Washington.—The report of the
investigation made in cor-
relation with the charges against
Senator Lorimer, which was pre-
sented to the senate today, was
signed by the committee.

Charges that four members of the
Illinois legislature were bribed and
that three of them paid bribes, are
not ignored by the committee.

The report declares that those who
confessed to receiving bribes should
not be believed and that the votes of
those who were charged with paying
bribes should be counted.

In relation to the charges that there
was a corruption fund used in the
Illinois legislature and that it was
disbursed by one Robert E. Wilson,
the report says that there is no evidence
that it was used for the benefit of Mr.
Lorimer. The committee suggests
that any investigation of the use of
such a fund should be made by at-
tornies of the state of Illinois.

The statement of views of Senator
Frazier was made public later. In
his statement Senator Frazier declares
that the four confessed bribe-takers
implicated three other members of
the legislature who bribed them; that
these three votes were also corrupt,
which would make seven tainted
votes. Eliminating these seven votes,
Senator Frazier holds, would make
the vote recordless, with a majority
of the vote recordless, "was not
signed by members of the committee,
although it did not appear that there
was any minority. On the floor of the
senate, however, Mr. Beveridge made
the statement that he had not been
able to concur with or dissent from
the findings because of the voluminous
character of the testimony. He said
that he would digest the proceedings
of the investigating committee during
the holidays.

Woman's Address to Assembly.
Tacoma, Wash.—The first na-
tional convention of women vot-
ers will be held here January 14, ac-
cording to plans perfected. The con-
vention was called by Governor
Brady of Idaho. Delegates from other
equal suffrage states—Utah, Wyo-
ming, Colorado and Washington—re-
presenting about 270,000 women vot-
ers, will participate.

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CHARLTON GAINS TWO POINTS

JUDGE ALLOWS ORDER TO AMEND
COURT RECORDS.

Father of Wife Slayer Confident
Order for Son's Extradition Will
Be Set Aside.

Trento.—N. J.—Not until January 9
will the father of the man who shot
his way back to Italy to be tried

for the murder of his wife's brother,
before United States judge, and bag-
ging the effects of the confinement and
which he is frequent-
ly adjourning on
the need of time for
certain important
evidence will be used
by the Secretary of State
that the young man be
allowed an order
records in the case by
proceeding before the
judge, following the
the steamship piers
from Europe. Con-
sidered also an order
eliminating from the record the copy
of the complaint presented before
Judge Blair of the Hudson county
judges. These are regarded as nota-
ble gains for the accused man, as
they greatly simplify the case which
his counsel has to conduct in his be-
half.

Judge Charlton is confident that the
ruling of Secretary Knox in favor of
extradition will be set aside. He does
not think his son in his present con-
dition would survive the journey to
Italy.

GUNBOAT MAY START REVOLT
Hornet, Former U. S. Ship, Clears
From New Orleans on Mys-
terious Voyage.

New Orleans.—The former United
States gunboat Hornet, reported to
have been purchased by Honduras
revolutionists, cleared from this port
for Cape Gracias with a crew of
twenty men, 200 tons of coal and
provisions for thirty days. Included
among the crew are several men who
have been connected with previous
subversive expeditions directed
against Central American re-
publics.

One of the rumors current was that
the Hornet would be turned over to
Mexican revolutionists. Captain John-
son, commanding the vessel, says that
the Hornet will be used in the Cen-
tral American trade.

U. OF C. GETS \$10,000,000
Rockefeller Foundation's Final Gift and Re-
tires from University.
D. Rockefeller has
announced that he
will retire from the
board of trustees of
the Standard Oil mag-
nate said in making the gift that he re-
turned from all connection with the
university and would give it nothing
more. His total gifts in 21 years ag-
gregate \$35,000,000.

Dies, Saving Little Ones.
Joliet, Ill.—To protect several small
children who were playing near a
"live wire" which had fallen to the
street, Dominick Davis, aged seven-
teen, an employee of the Santa Fe
railway, picked up the wire believing
it insulated and was electrocuted in
Cal City, near here, Thursday.

Dies at Age of 106.
Fond du Lac, Wis.—Mrs. Sophia
Unferth died at the age of 106 years
Thursday. She was born in Germany
in 1805, and has three children living.

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was detained at home by serious ill-
ness, Senator Scott of West Virginia
added: "I am glad to say he is much
better."

Opening of Postal Savings Banks.
Washington.—All is ready for start-
ing the machinery of the postal sav-
ings banks throughout the country on
January 2. The 48 postmasters, each
representing a state, who have been
in Washington acquiring information
concerning the management of the
postal savings work, have finished
their training at Postmaster General
Hitchcock's office. All of them are at
second class offices, each office select-
ed as the most representative one of
its state for a try out in postal bank-
ing.

Text Annals Death Decree.
Washington.—President Taft Tues-
day commuted to life imprisonment
the death sentence passed upon John
Wyne, an officer on the steamer Rosen-
crans at Honolulu, Hawaii, for the
murder of a man named McKinnon.

HOLIDAY INFLUENCE

Industries Are Reported Quiet, But
Trade Is as Good as That Re-
ported Last Year.

New York.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Week-
ly Review of Trade said:

In sharp contrast with the between-
seasons dullness in jobbing trade is the
brisk holiday retail distribution, which
in most of the cities is reported to be
equal or in excess of last year.

Building operations in a number of
cities show decline as compared with
last year, though the aggregate of new
projects is still large. Diminished ac-
tivity in iron and steel is to be ex-
pected as the year draws to a close,
yet it is evident that dull